

CONNECTICUT CIVIL RIGHTS COUNSEL

April 16, 2009

We oppose the appointment of James F. Clary from Waterbury, To Be A Member Of The Judicial Review Council, As A Public Member without his commitment to hold abusive and corrupt judges accountable.

The Judicial review council reviews and dismisses hundreds of complaints every year which detail blatant abuse by judges in our state. There is no accountability for corruption and abuse by judges in our judicial branch. The following are examples of complaints the judicial review council dismissed.

Judge Edward Graziani, Superior court judge at Rockville

- Gave Sole custody to a mother on trial for stabbing the children's father
- Denying court access, scheduling hearings on motions, then refusing to hear them
- Holding a father in contempt of court for failing to pay support based on income the judge made-up, then refusing to modify support saying the father's income was unknown, blatant gender bias.
- Lying to judicial committee, denied involvement in a restraining order that had his signature on it. Graziani approved a restraining order in retaliations for complaints against judges and terminated contact with a father and his children without allegations of harm or abuse and no children listed in the application. Graziani added the mother to the orders who never asked to be included.

Judge Jonathan Kaplan Administrative Judge at Rockville court

- Granted a false restraining order, not for abuse but because he didn't like parenting rules, terminated contact with father and son.
- When father complained, Kaplan issued a second restraining order, no allegations of abuse, no children on the application, terminated contact with father and daughters in retaliation for complaint against a judge.
- Refused to correct computer errors which added people to RO not in the judges orders
- Threatens father to take away children for years as he did to other fathers
- Follows through on threats to call state police and prosecutors, to have father arrested and prosecuted, claiming he's guilty of a crime.
- Calling and meeting with State Prosecutors and other judges to prosecute father. Convinced prosecutor to target father in case that was agreed to dismiss
- False Allegations that a father was threatening judges and court house with firearms. Supervising marshal of courthouse testified of no such threat ever existed
- Conspiring with family relations to influence family cases and criminal cases.
- Tampering with court files and court records, removing documents and adding documents he admitted he knew were false.

- Fabricating evidence in arrest warrant, driving to Hartford court to meet with prosecutors and submit false records for arrest warrant. Kaplan targets individuals who complain against him
- Stopping his car in the street to block court parking lot driveway of person who complained against him.
- Ex Parte communication with opposing counsel, saying how he would rule prior to conclusion of evidence and testimony.

Judge Lawrence Klaczak Magistrate at Rockville court

- Conspired with Judge Kaplan and Graziani to target and abuse, issued false restraining order. Klaczak states the restraining order to terminated contact with father and daughters is for complaints against judge Kaplan.
- Delayed hearing for three months, denied access to court
- Conspired with Family relations Teresa "Ricky" Wassenburg and judge Graziani to have father arrested and Influence criminal case. Tells GA judge to issue full protective order, terminating all contact with children and father in retaliation for judicial complaint.

Judge Patricia Swords, Superior court Judge at Rockville

- Terminating contact with a father and son without allegations of harm or risk, motions were never served on the parties.
- Forcing father to pay to see his daughters one hour a week at supervised visits without allegations of harm or risk
- Uses state paid GAL to litigate, file motions and give legal argument against a father to take away his children
- Swords refused to swear in a GAL appointed by the court and paid by the state to testify on behalf of the children. Swords ignored objections telling party to be quite and sit down.
- Denied access to the court for 1-1/2 years, refusing to hear any motion filed by a father, yet hearing all motion filed by any other party, including state paid GAL
- Scheduling and hearing motions before the other parties are served or notified. Granting motions before they were even scheduled with the court.
- Sanctioned a psychological evaluation of the family at the states expense costing the state thousands of dollars for investigations and report that were never provided to the court. Condoned GAL telling Dr. to only focus on father.
- Complaints to Judicial review council against Swords she added to the court file to prejudice other judges.
- Fabricates orders, making up criminal cases and protective orders that don't exist as grounds to take away children. Claims she modified orders in other courts in cases that don't exist
- Threatens fathers to take away all their children with out allegations of any harm or abuse.

- Lists complaints against judges as grounds to take away children
- Verifies GAL and mother's attorney lied to the court, presented false orders and takes no action, continues to rule in favor of mother and GAL

Judge Kenneth Shluger, superior Court judge at Rockville

- Tells a father "we can only hope" that his children never see him until the age of 18, no allegations of harm.
- Cites criminal cases and protective orders against father that he knew did not exist as grounds for obstructing contact and relationship with children.
- Hears testimony from GAL claiming father threatened courthouse and judges with firearms, testimony from supervising court marshal that the GAL is lying, no such threat or allegation ever existed, but does nothing. Shluger continues to rule in favor of GAL to block access with father and children and make him pay for supervised visits.
- Shluger rules in favor of mother claiming she can only work 12 hours a week so she can litigate. The following day holds a father to 40 + hour work week based only on mother saying can work full time.
- Denied access to court, schedules half day hearing and denies a father the right to call witnesses or present evidence to end the hearing and give orders. on partial testimony and evidence. Grants motion to reargue but delays hearing for over a year then recuses himself as being bias.

Judge Howard Scheinblum, Superior Court Judge at Enfield GA

- Playing a violin in court to decide sentencing for defendants
- Calling Hispanics "El Stupido" who can't speak English
- Yelling at court reporter to shut off recording device and threatens defendant with jail, fines and retaliation penalties for submitting evidence of prosecutor lying to the court
- Denies defendants right to counsel and barbers with them from the bench to take prosecutors offer or go to jail.
- Throws a party at the courthouse and charges attorneys \$12 per person. Public is excluded
- Transfers criminal case to his courtroom of a prosecutor arrested for sexual assault and dismisses case. Prosecutor practices before this judge
- Twice removes attorneys from a defendant who presents evidence of corruption, of judge calling and meeting with prosecutor to influence case. Refuses to bring case to trial and delays it for 2-1/2 years.
- Removes council from defendant asking for accommodations and protection under the American with Disabilities act for his disability.

The following is presented in opposition to the appointment of John F Clary to the Judicial review council as evidence of the abuse and corruption in our courts and the complaints the council dismisses.

Judicial committee Public Hearing on the reappointment of Superior court judge Howard Scheinblum

March 6, 2006

Rep. Hovey expresses her opposition to the delay of reappointment of Judge Howard Scheinblum to investigate allegations of abuse and depriving defendant of fundamental rights to counsel and fair hearing

REP. HOVEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before you, I'm not sure what the protocol is, do you want to close the public hearing? I have a comment I want to make.

REP. LAWLOR: Oh, sure, I can close the public hearing. No problem, it's okay.

REP. HOVEY: Okay, I just wanted to say that I respect the, respectfully object to the delay in the votes on these judges because it's my understanding that the delay is due to one of the nominees specifically.

And, from my perspective, we've appointed and appraised judges who have had significant issues with demeanor.

They're arrogant, pretentious and even dishonest, and that we have recently approved a judge who knowingly put children back into harm's way instead of using their judicial latitude to protect these children.

And the particular individual that we had earlier today, I believe the terms willful neglect and this or that about their circumstance, personal circumstance.

And what I would say is, someone who sits on this Committee with a--

[Whereupon, the hearing was adjourned.]